

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 01902 201956Z
ACTION NODS-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4569

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 01902

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, PR, PK
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION: PAKISTAN ISSUE

1. IN MY CONVERSATION WITH QUAI SECRETARY GENERAL SOUTOU JANUARY 20, HE UNDERLINED THAT THE PRESS LEAK ON FRENCH INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS PAKISTAN HAD PUT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT IN A DIFFICULT POSITION BOTH AT HOME AND WITH THE PAKISTANIS. DURING HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON, JACOMET WILL SAY THAT THE FRENCH POSITION WILL BE SEVERELY WEAKENED IF THE US GOES AHEAD WITH AID TO PAKISTAN ON THE BASIS OF A CHANGED FRENCH POSITION ON THE REPROCESSING DEAL.

2. SOUTOU STRESSED THE FRENCH CONVICTION, HELD BY PRESIDENT GISCARD HIMSELF, THAT THE FRENCH MUST MAINTAIN THEIR POSITION AGAINST PROCEEDING WITH THE ORIGINAL DEAL FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR OWN NATIONAL INTEREST AND THE INTEREST OF THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FRG (WHICH MUST NOT RESULT IN A MISGUIDED GERMAN NUCLEAR POLICY BASED ON A FRENCH EXAMPLE). BUT FOR FRANCE TO HOLD THE LINE, IT NEEDS US HELP.

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PAKISTAN IS PUTTING A GREAT DEAL OF PRESSURE ON THE FRENCH, AND THERE IS DANGER - PARTICULARLY IN AN ELECTORAL PERIOD - THAT INFORMATION ON THE FRENCH POSITION CAN BE USED AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT. FOLLOWING HIS TALKS IN WASHINGTON, JACOMET WILL GO TO PAKISTAN TO CLARIFY THE FRENCH POSITION.
HARTMAN

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Message Attributes

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